

## CLAIMS

1. Method for clearing an overload situation in a telecommunication system comprising:

5        a first network element (LE) ;  
          a second network element (AN) ;  
          subscriber ports (1; 1<sup>1</sup>, 1<sup>2</sup>, 1<sup>3</sup>, ...) comprised in  
          said network elements (LE, AN) ; and  
          an interface (V5) connecting the subscriber ports  
          of the first network element (LE) to the subscriber  
10      ports of the second network element (AN) ,  
          in which telecommunication system:

15      a subscriber's call attempt is transmitted by the  
          second network element (AN) to the first network ele-  
          ment (LE) ;  
          it is detected that the signalling channel between  
          the network elements (LE, AN) and/or the first network  
          element (LE) are/is overloaded;

20      the subscriber's call attempt is inhibited in the  
          first network element (LE) ;  
          characterized in that the method

comprises the steps of:  
          causing a notice advising that the subscriber's  
          call attempt is to be inhibited in the second network  
          element (AN) to be sent by the first network element  
25      (LE) to the second network element (AN) ; and  
          inhibiting the subscriber's call attempt in the  
          second network element (AN) .

2. Method as defined in claim 1, charac-  
          terized in that the subscriber's call attempt is  
30      inhibited in the second network element (AN) during a  
          period of time prescribed by the first network element  
          (LE) .

35      3. Method as defined in claim 1 or 2,  
          characterized in that the inhibition of the  
          subscriber's call attempt in the second network ele-  
          ment (AN) is cancelled if the overload situation in

the signalling channel and/or first network element (LE) is cleared.

4. Method as defined in any one of the preceding claims 1 - 3, characterized in that  
5 the inhibition of the subscriber's call attempt in the second network element (AN) is cancelled even if the period of time prescribed by the first network element (LE) has not yet elapsed.

5. Method as defined in any one of the preceding claims 1 - 4, characterized in that  
10 a priority class analysis regarding the subscriber is performed in the first network element (LE); and  
the subscriber's call attempts are inhibited in  
the second network element (AN) if the result of the  
15 priority class analysis permits it.

6. Method as defined in any one of the preceding claims 1 - 5, characterized in that,  
in the case of a terminating call,  
the inhibition of the subscriber's call attempt in  
20 the second network element (AN) is cancelled; and  
the call is set up in the normal manner.

7. Method as defined in any one of the preceding claims 1 - 6, characterized in that  
the interface (V5) is a V5.2 interface.

25 8. System for clearing an overload situation  
in a telecommunication system comprising:  
a first network element (LE);  
a second network element (AN);  
subscriber ports (1; 1<sup>1</sup>, 1<sup>2</sup>, 1<sup>3</sup>, ...) comprised in  
30 said network elements (LE, AN); and  
an interface (V5) connecting the subscriber ports  
of the first network element (LE) to the subscriber  
ports of the second network element (AN),  
in which telecommunication system:

35 a subscriber's call attempt is transmitted by the second network element (AN) to the first network element (LE);

it is detected that the signalling channel between the network elements (LE, AN) and/or the first network element (LE) are/is overloaded;

5 the subscriber's call attempt is inhibited in the first network element (LE);

characterized in that the system comprises:

means (2) for causing the first network element (LE) to send a call inhibition notice to the second 10 network element (AN); and

means (3) for inhibiting the subscriber's call attempt in the second network element (AN).

9. System as defined in claim 8, characterized in that system comprises means (4) for cancelling the inhibition of the subscriber's call attempt in the second network element (AN).

10. System as defined in claim 8 or 9, characterized in that the system comprises means (5) for performing a priority class analysis regarding the subscriber.

11. System as defined in any one of the preceding claims 8 - 10, characterized in that the interface (V5) is a V5.2 interface.

12. System as defined in any one of the preceding claims 8 - 11, characterized in that the telecommunication system is a telephone exchange system.

13. System as defined in any one of the preceding claims 8 - 12, characterized in that the first network element (LE) is a telephone exchange.